



City of Hampton, VA Meeting Minutes City Council

22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669
www.hampton.gov

*W. H. "Billy" Hobbs, Jr.
Will Moffett
Chris Snead
Molly Joseph Ward, Mayor*

*Christopher G. Stuart
Donnie R. Tuck
George E. Wallace*

*Staff:
Mary Bunting, City Manager
Cynthia Hudson, City Attorney
Katherine K. Glass, CMC, Clerk of Council*

Wednesday, August 8, 2012

6:01 PM

Council Chambers, 8th Floor, City Hall

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

MOLLY JOSEPH WARD PRESIDED

PRESENT: W. H. "Billy" Hobbs, Jr., Will Moffett, Chris Snead, Christopher G. Stuart

ABSENT: Vice Mayor George E. Wallace, Donnie R. Tuck

Mayor Ward called the meeting to order.

Councilman Tuck was not present at roll call; however, arrived at 6:20 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Katherine Gasparis-Dermanis, 1668 N. Mallory Street, greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I am currently the President of the Buckroe Improvement League. Last May, the Buckroe Improvement League sponsored its third annual Buckroe Arts in the Park. We brought the arts back to Buckroe. We used to have the event many years ago. The Arts in the Park was never intended to be a money maker; it was intended to bring positive family focused events to the Buckroe area. We could not have had a successful event this year without the cooperation of Mr. Jim Wilson and Ms. Cindy Masterstaff of the Parks and Recreation Department; Mr. Jonathan McBride and Ms. Sabrina Carr of the Neighborhood Office; the Police Department; the Sheriff's Department; and the Buckroe Fire Department. We thank all of them for helping us hold and maintain this event every year. We hope that it continues and becomes a tradition. Our next event is a School Supply Drive at Buckroe Park Saturday, August 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We are trying to fill a truck with school supplies to take to the neighboring schools to help our children. Thank you. The Buckroe Improvement League looks forward to working with the City in future events.

Rev. Marcellus Harris, Jr., 9 Kenilworth Drive, greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I have forgone my prayer service tonight to be here. I am here tonight on behalf of the Coalition for Justice for Civil Rights. We came prepared to make a report and recommendation, but because of some unfolding events and important,

urgent issues that are complicating that matter, we have decided to defer our report and recommendation until the Ad Hoc Committee meets before this Council about its findings. We are prepared tonight to suggest to you that we would like to have our City Police Chief Charles Jordan to step aside in the midst of some of the investigational issues and have Major Ronald Davis appointed as Acting City Police Chief in the interim period. After the Ad Hoc Committee has made its report, we then will give you some additional information about our reports and our recommendations.

Rev. Harris noted that some of the members for the Coalition for Justice were present and he was the spokesperson for what is being presented. He then opened the floor for questions from Council and asked for a response from Council.

Mayor Ward apologized for not asking the Clerk to read the meeting protocol. She noted that normal protocol is to not have a give and take session during the Public Comment Period.

Mr. Scott Butler, 24 Amy Brooks Drive, Newport News, Va., greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I am speaking on behalf of Citizens for a Fort Monroe National Park (CFMNP) regarding the resolution on Hampton's position on the reuse of the Wherry Quarter on Fort Monroe. If approved, this resolution would be a huge step forward in promoting a grand public place at Fort Monroe to the long-term cultural and economic benefit of Hampton and the region. The resolution emphasizes the appeal of Fort Monroe's natural and recreational resources; it states the community's desire to "establish a large scale open space park". As amended this afternoon, the resolution supports significant green connection and view shed protection between the two parts of Fort Monroe National Monument; it acknowledges the existence and the crucial role of the monument when it says that any use of Wherry should be "complementary to the National Park Service plans, goals and objectives". In all these ways, the resolution supports the public's clear choice of a green open space on Wherry. CFMNP's ultimate preference would be for an outright declaration that all or most of Wherry should be incorporated into the National Monument and we will continue to advocate for that outcome. This is the only way Wherry will be protected in perpetuity from development that diminishes Fort Monroe's appeal to visitors. Even if the Fort Monroe Authority (FMA) following the resolution's guidance were to limit Wherry development to what is complementary to the National Park Service Plans (as the resolution says), some future FMA Board might decide to ignore these limitations. Our goal aside, we certainly recognize the significance of this resolution. It points the FMA in the right direction toward what the public wants for Fort Monroe and what is best for Hampton and the region. If it is approved, this would be a proud day for the Hampton City Council. Thank you.

Mr. Hugh Bassette, 117 Rip Rap Road, greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I represent the Old Northampton Community Organization. We would like to bring you thanks from the criminals, thugs and hoodlums in Old Northampton because the police substation that was in the Langley Shopping Center is now closed. When it was brought up at our meeting, I thought that it was going to remain open. Now, we do not have as much police presence in Old Northampton as we previously had. That substation provided a lot of service. Crooks now have more time to get away with their criminal activity. We asked that it be kept open before, and for some reason it wasn't. We would like to pass on that we were highly upset when we found out that it was going to close. We want as much police presence in Old

Northampton as we can possibly get. Now, the lag times will be a little bit longer. Maybe later on when you get more money, you may want to reopen it because it makes a lot of difference as far as police responding to crime and calls. Now, they will have to come from further away. The criminals thank you.

Mr. Tony Casparriello, 100 Wilderness Road, greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: Maywood, California – remember that name. When candidates run for Council, they are often asked what could be done to keep people from leaving Hampton or to make sure people move to Hampton. One thing that will surely not enhance any endeavor is a memorial in front of the City's bus station across from its courthouse in walking distance from its Police Station and its City Hall; a memorial that is dedicated to an unarmed young man who was shot and killed by one or more Hampton police officers. Sadly, there have been other police shootings that have occurred under (to be kind) less than comforting circumstances. What makes the most recent shooting so concerning is that according to reports and quotes from the Hampton Police Department (HPD) itself, the young man was carrying only a baseball bat and the officers were unequipped and/or untrained. The cost of training was reported to be \$50 per year. Let's say that each of the 277 officers is required initial and annual training, that is a per annum cost of \$13,850. The average cost of a 10 million volt stun gun is \$100; that is \$27,700 for 277 police officers. I am not sure what the effect of a 10 million volt stun gun is, but I know I would drop a baseball bat. The cost to fully train and equip 277 officers is \$41,550. The report also says the incident took less than 20 seconds. Regardless, there was enough time for a second officer to respond. So, basically, a management decision was made that it was not worth the \$41,550 and the 20 seconds of time it would have taken to save the life of Bryant Weiford. You may not think this is a moral issue, but you should. You may not think this is a values issue, but you should. You may not think this is a civil rights issue, but you should. What about Maywood, California? In July 2010, the city laid off its entire workforce including the entire Police Department. Revenue declined, but Maywood's biggest problem was by far its Police Department. There were \$19 million in claims pending against the police which made it effectively impossible for the City to get insurance for any of its employees. If Maywood did not dismiss the workforce, officials said bankruptcy would have been the only option. Even if you don't have the heart to look at this as a moral issue, or the soul to look at it as a civil rights issue, you'd better have the brains to look at it as a financial issue. God help us all if you don't. Thank you.

Mr. Edwin Boone, 48 Snow Street, made the following statement regarding acceptable forms of identification (I.D.) for voting in Virginia. All voters are required to show one form of I.D. in order to vote a regular ballot in Virginia. One of the following I.D.'s (are required): Virginia voter card, social security card or valid Virginia driver's license. Note: licenses expiring within 30 days before Election Day will be considered valid for use as voter I.D. or concealed weapons permit. Any other I.D. issued by a government agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia including a public college or university in Virginia or one of the Commonwealth's political subdivisions, counties, cities, towns, etc. or the United States or any valid employee I.D. card containing a photo issued by the voter's employer in the ordinary course of business. For a first time voter that registered to vote by mail or through a third party registration group, one of the following I.D.'s (are required): a current and valid photo identification such as valid Virginia Driver's license, employee photo I.D. or student photo I.D. from a Virginia public high school or an institution of higher learning or passport or a copy of one of the following current documents containing the voter's name and address: a utility bill, a bank statement, a

paycheck, a government check or other government document including a Virginia voting card or a document from any Federal, State or local government agency. If you do not show an I.D. when you vote, you may vote provisional. You have up to three days after the election to turn in your I.D. You have to make a copy and take it to the registrar's office; they will not make copies for you. The registrar's office is located at 1919 Commerce Drive, Suite 280, Hampton, Virginia. The telephone number is 727-6218. All active voters will receive a voter card toward the middle of September. The deadline for registering to vote is October 15, 2012. This is the most important election of our lifetime. Right now, I am 57 (years old) and there is no guarantee that I will be living the next four years to see 61. I voted at the last election; I have voted at most elections. We need to get it right and get off of our couches. We need to do what is right by you and don't complain and talk about how we are going backwards. Get out and vote and get involved. Thank you.

Mr. David Braunbeck, 2111 E. Pembroke Ave. #48, greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: I understand we have two newly elected Council persons, Mr. William Hobbs and Ms. Chris Snead. Welcome to them both. The old adage "welcome to the shooting gallery because you are going to be awfully busy". I want to say, again, please use your conscience and please listen to the citizens of Hampton. Your jobs are very important, but you have to listen to the citizens of Hampton; you have to listen to the groups when we come up here to talk to you. Use your common sense; listen to us. Doors can be opened. Doors can be closed. Things can be changed. When we have a problem, we will come to you with our problems, but listen with decency and respect. It is not hard to do. This is the United States. We are a free democracy and we need to start acting like it. Get out and vote.

Mr. Adrian Whitcomb, 316 54th Street, Newport News, Va. greeted those on the dais and presented them with a power point presentation entitled "Fort Monroe National Monument: Maximizing a National Treasure". A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes. Mr. Whitcomb emphasized that Fort Monroe as a National Park has been popular all along. He stated their philosophy of doing the best for Fort Monroe National Monument will also be the best for Fort Monroe as a whole and for Hampton. He reviewed the information on the slides and encouraged everyone to go to the website fortmonroecitizens.org to see the presentation and an expanded view with additional slides and links to all types of information. Thank you.

Mayor Ward noted Mr. Whitcomb was the last citizen who had signed up to speak and called for additional speakers from the audience. There was one additional speaker.

Mr. Andreas Johnson, 1113 Mallory St., made the following statement: I would like to address Council about the fluoridation of water in the City. I recently found out information about the Harvard study, one of almost a thousand studies that have been done recently about the fluoridation in the water. The Harvard study suggests that fluoride is added to about 70% of the U.S. public drinking water supply to prevent cavities and tooth decay. This benefit seems to be dubious at best. There is practically no difference between fluoridated areas and non-fluoridated areas in the country or between this country and any other country that does not fluoridate, yet, we still fluoridate our waters. There is also another suggestion by this study that fluoridation damages Intelligence Quotient (I.Q.) levels as well as is detrimental to children and newborns. My suggestion to the Council is to think about possibly taking this out because there seems to be no positive affects; only adverse affects. Thank you.

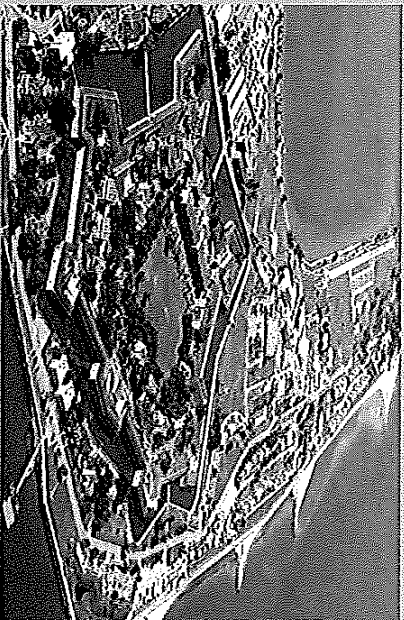
ADJOURNMENT

Molly Joseph Ward
Mayor

Katherine K. Glass, CMC
Clerk of Council

Date approved by Council _____

**Fort Monroe National Monument
Maximizing a National Treasure**



**Online Poll Results from 2011 on
Fort Monroe becoming a national
monument or park:**

**Implied in Both Polls was that ALL
of Fort Monroe should become a
national monument or national park**

**Daily Press..... 87%
Virginian-Pilot..... 92%**

Hampton Petition

Copies of petitions supporting a national park with 7,000 signatures were presented by Monika Malone to Terry Moore of the National Park Service (NPS) at the Hampton Roads Convention Center on July 19, 2011.



“Nearly 3,000 back National Park at Fort Monroe”

Daily Press, August 01, 2011

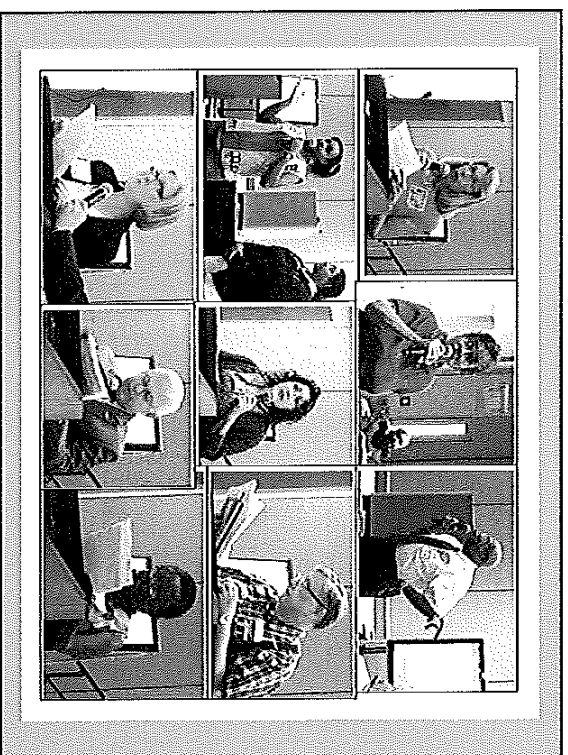
“HAMPTON – About 2,700 people provided comments to the National Park Service when asked whether a national park should be at Fort Monroe – and the vast majority favor a park. National Park Service spokesman Jeffrey Olson said Monday about 1,700 comments were received on line by the July 26 deadline

**“Nearly 3,000 back National Park
at Fort Monroe”**

and approximately 1,000 comments were received in the mail. ‘It’s a very good response ... they were far and away in favor of National Park Service stewardship of the site,’ he said. The National Park Service also heard comments at two public meetings on July 19.

**“Nearly 3,000 back National Park
at Fort Monroe”**

Hampton Mayor Molly Ward estimated almost 1,000 people attended those meetings at the Hampton Roads Convention Center. The focus was on establishing a park at the fort after the Army vacates the post on Sept. 15.”



8/14/2012



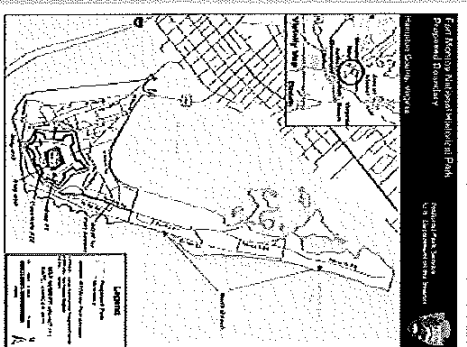
What would improve FMNM?

- (1) Creating a continuous experience for visitors, Fortress to natural areas**
- (2) Providing an appropriate setting for the Fortress, the proper "frame"**
- (3) Opening up of views from Fortress across green open space and toward Chesapeake Bay and views from waterfront toward Fortress**

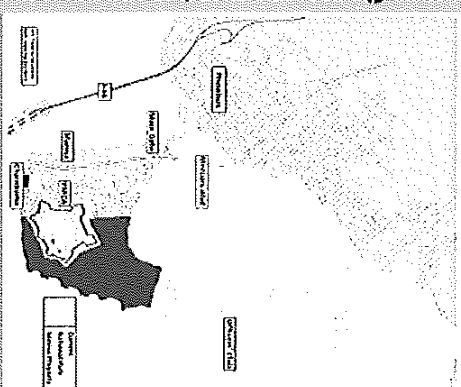
What would improve FMNM?

- (4) Minimizing of potential conflict between future residents of Fort Monroe and visitors**
- (5) Maintaining Fort Monroe's uniqueness rather than imitating other places**
[from a variety of sources and often repeated]

Call for Unity
FMNM's division
a disadvantage that
needs to be
overcome.
Separation Makes
FMNM less
attractive to
tourists and locals



Restoring the Heart of Fort Monroe
To provide only
grand view of the
Fortress from
land or water
To open scenic
and historic view
from Fortress to
Chesapeake Bay



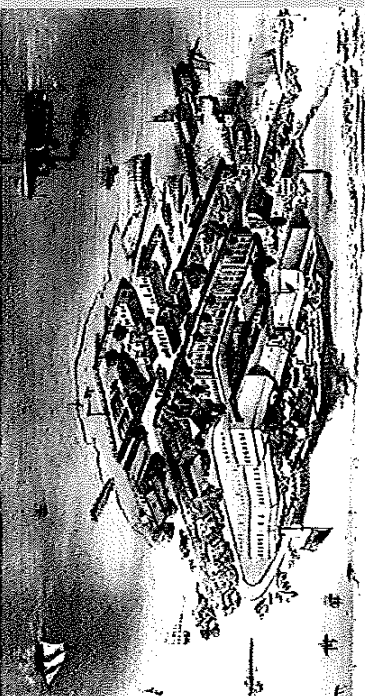
Wherry Buildings Block View of Bay

Historic Views of Chesapeake Bay from Top of
Fortress Walls Blocked by 20th Century Buildings



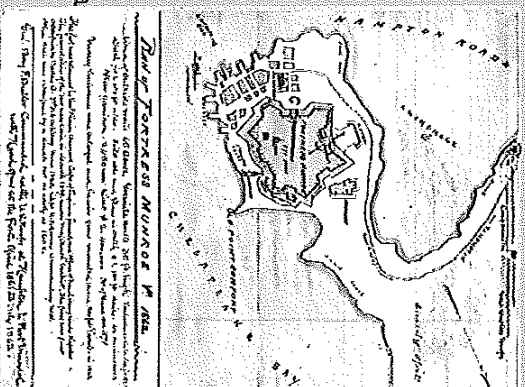
Fort Monroe 1860's: Open View of Bay

An Open View was necessary for the defense
of the Chesapeake Bay.



Plan of Fort Monroe

Union army cartographer Robert K. Sneden drew this plan of Fort Monroe shortly after arriving in April 1862 as part of the federal build-up for the Peninsula Campaign
(Courtesy of the Virginia Historical Society)



Wherry Buildings in the Line of Fire Historic Views of Chesapeake Bay from Top of Fortress Walls Blocked by 20th Century Buildings



Fortress

Wherry Apartments



Residences on Historic Land

**Wherry Buildings Block View of
Fortress from Seawall**



For Fort Monroe to be the “Grand Public Place” it should be, the Wherry property is critical.

Building on the Endangered Green Heart will create a barrier between the natural areas and the historic areas, and prevent the place from feeling and functioning as a unified, high quality whole. Buildings would block a very historic viewshed.

The public needs to view the 565 acres as one place, connected and whole, with as much green space as possible.

Preserving the South Waterfront (including batteries Irwin and Parrott), the bayfront area of Wherry Quarter, is also essential to achieving a Grand Public Place.

The Fort Monroe MindMixer

Results as of July 31, 2012

Website Users 318
Ideas Submitted 305
Comments on Ideas of Others .. 1,050+

MindMixer Ideas as of June 8, 2012

5 MOST POPULAR IDEAS → ONE THEME

- Lets make a REAL national monument/park!
- Virginian-Pilot calls for including missing Bayfront Wherry land
- Please Protect the Beautiful Beach from being developed & ruined
- Maintain Uniqueness of Fort Monroe
- Put all of the Fort in the National Monument

What is the “ONE THEME?”

The “ONE THEME”

The most popular individual ideas as well as the greatest number of ideas on one theme had the theme of:

Unify Fort Monroe by including the Wherry Quarter in Fort Monroe National Monument.

[Second place was “make all of Fort Monroe a park”]

(1) Do you think the “Peninsula” is a great Region?

- Greatness in Protecting Our Historical Landmarks
- Peninsula is a World-Class Historic Region
- History, Waterfront and Open Space
- Grand Pubic Place at Old Point Comfort Will Incite Improvement

(2) How does Fort Monroe contribute to Hampton being recognized as a great city?

- Fort Monroe's Uniqueness Makes Hampton a Destination City
- Restraint in Wherry and Activity in North Gate, Historic Village
- Real NP that injects business into Phoebus, not bypasses it
- Hampton Support for a Unified Fort Monroe Will Define Greatness

(3) Your Vision for Fort Monroe

- Let's make a REAL national monument/park!
- Protect Beach from being developed and ruined
- Maintain Uniqueness of Fort Monroe
- Put all of the Fort in the National Monument
- Grand Public Place with International Significance

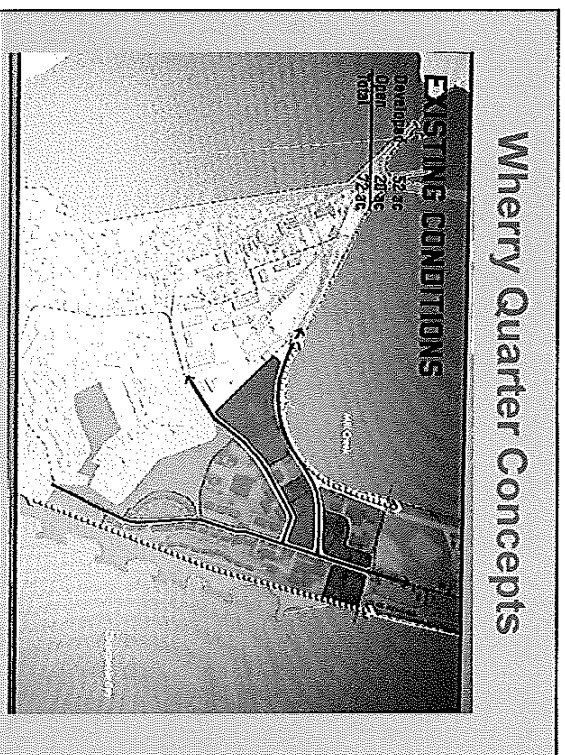
(5) How can we ensure a pedestrian friendly street network?

- Avoid Overdevelopment and Maximize Open Space
- Strengthen off-street walks, trails and paths + curbs/sidewalks
- Temporary Use Only of Wherry Buildings

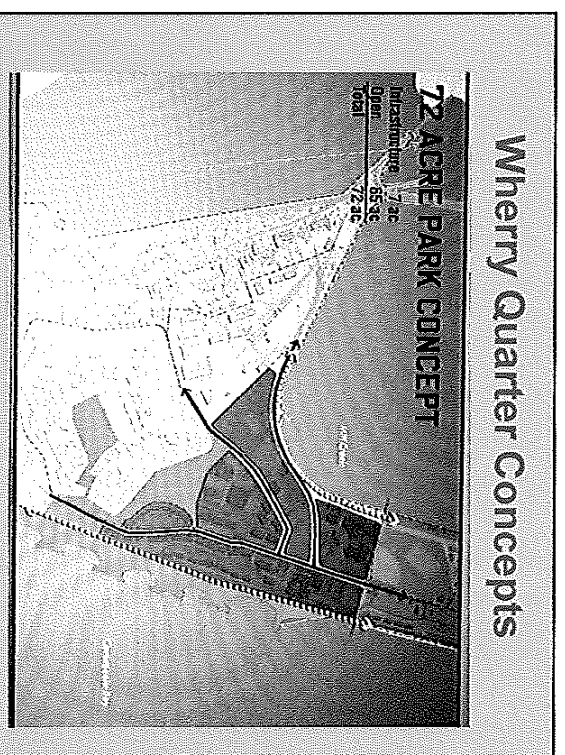
(6) What would you like to see included in FMNM?

- Virginian-Pilot calls for including missing bayfront Wherry land
- Re-Create View to Honor Fortress and Those Who Have Served Here
- Vision for Nature at Fort Monroe
- Good Planning Would Never Allow Inholdings to be Created

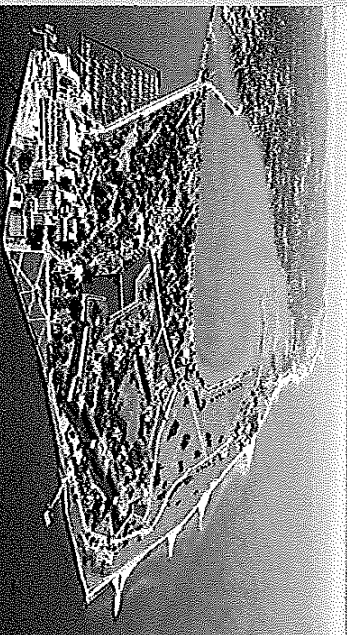
Wherry Quarter Concepts



Wherry Quarter Concepts



Fort Monroe National Monument Maximizing a National Treasure



A citizen's vision of Fort Monroe with Open Space in Wherry Quarter

Videos: Fortress and Wherry

[View from Fortress toward Chesapeake Bay](#)

[View from Water Battery of Fortress Wall, Moat, Wherry](#)

[5 Minute Walk from Moat to Bay](#)

[Go to YouTube website and enter title to view]

LINKS

Citizens for a Fort Monroe National
Park: FortMonroeCitizens.org

<http://fortmonroecitizens.org>

Fort Monroe MindMixer:

<http://ideas.fmauthority.com>

Citizens for a Fort Monroe
National Park

FortMonroeCitizens.org